

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE COD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra for fifty years of musical entertainment and to express my gratitude for their undying commitment to preserving education of the arts in Massachusetts.

The Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra was founded fifty years ago as an all-volunteer collection of student and adult musicians. Today, the Orchestra is renowned as the premier cultural arts organization of Cape Cod—comprised of 85 classically trained, professional musicians who bring their passion for music and culture to each and every performance. Under the skillful direction of Maestro Jung-Ho Pak, the Orchestra reaches the hearts of its audiences through five classical concerts and three pop concerts per season—inspiring over 50,000 residents and visitors to the Cape and Islands communities.

The home of the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra has changed throughout the years—from venues across the Cape to their current stage at the Barnstable Performing Arts Center at Barnstable High School. However, their music has remained in the souls of their listeners wherever they go. Through the Orchestra's MusicWorks! Education Program, students of all ages across the Cape and Islands are provided with the opportunity to interact

with orchestra members, learn about their many instruments and attend intimate concerts. These programs are designed to enable all students—not just those who are musically-inclined—to develop an appreciation for and life-long interest in classical music.

In September, 2010, the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra merged with the Cape Cod Conservatory of Music & Arts—unifying their mission of inspiring joy through the arts. Now, the Cape Cod Symphony and Conservatory of Music & Arts provide a whole variety of new programs—from a musical summer camp to music training for adult students—to engage eager participants of all ages.

The high-caliber educational opportunities offered by the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra has greatly contributed to the cultural atmosphere of the region. I commend the Orchestra for its devotion to music education and I thank all members, past and present, for their willingness to relay their passion for music and performance to five decades of audiences.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN AS IT
CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL
NATIONAL DAY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor President Ma Ying-jeou and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate their centennial National Day on October 10, 2011.

Nearly 65,000 Taiwanese-Americans live in the Chicagoland area, and I am always im-

pressed by their engagement in the political process and pride in their culture and history.

Taiwan is an important friend and ally of the United States. The United States and Taiwan enjoy a robust trade relationship that totals \$59 billion in goods and services, making Taiwan the ninth-largest U.S. trade partner. Taiwan also stands as a strong democracy in the Asian-Pacific region.

It is important to mention the strides Taiwan has made in improving its relationship with mainland China too. The most significant development in recent times was the signing of the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement on June 29, 2010. The agreement reduced tariffs and trade barriers between the two sides, improving not just bilateral trade, but the cross-strait relationship. Regular dialogue between Taiwan and mainland China has also helped reduce military tensions.

Please join me in congratulating President Ma and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate their centennial National Day, and in wishing them many more years of friendship, prosperity, and peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, October 3, 2011, I missed a couple of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 742, 743, 744.